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EXAMINER
RONES, C

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2771	

020995   LM01/0411
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DATE MAILED:
04/11/00

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _Feb 1, 2000_

☐ This action is **FINAL.**

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters,   **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under _Ex parte Quayle,_ 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire _____3___ month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claim

 ☒ Claim(s) _1-40_____ is/are pending in the applicat

   Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration

 ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

 ☒ Claim(s) _1-40_____ is/are rejected.

 ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

 ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

 ☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

 ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

 ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐disapproved.

 ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

 ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

 ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

   ☐ All ☐ Some* ☒ None   of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

     ☐ received.

     ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____ .

     ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   *Certified copies not received: _____

 ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

 ☒ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

 ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____

 ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

 ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

 ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- *SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES* ---

DETAILED ACTION

Amendment

1.   The amendment and terminal disclaimer timely filed on February 1, 2000 has been entered.

Specification

2.   Cross-References to Related Applications: See 37 CFR 1.78 and MPEP § 201.11.

The cross reference to the continuing application should be statused to included the patent issue

number and date.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3.   The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found

in a prior Office action.

4.   Claims 1-19 & 21-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Jackson,

Jr. US Patent 5,819,274 ('Jackson').

5.   As to claim 1, Jackson discloses:

        a. a portable client; See Fig. 1 (items 116a-e);

        b. a client database; See 5:1-7; 6:32-56; and

c. a communications module; See 6:44-56; and

d. a server (110) computer; See 7:49-54;

e. a data storage (112); See 9:33-40;

f. a session module, in communication with the data storage, to non-persistently connect

to the communications module and directly manipulate the client database during the connection

from time to time; See Abstract; 3:30-45; 6:1-30; 7:49-53; 8:4-17; Fig. 3.

6.   As to claim 2, Jackson discloses:

a. wherein access of the client database by the session module is a query; See 9:32-40.

7.   As to claim 3, Jackson discloses:

a. wherein the access of the client database by the session module is to add data to the

client database; See 3:1-67; 4:1-4.

8.   As to claim 4, Jackson discloses:

a. wherein the adding of data updates a work order in the client database wherein it is

deemed that a sales force having forms for sales and service call records and patient information

includes work orders; See 3:1-67; 9:1-19; Figs. 10-11; 7:1-34.

9.   As to claim 5, Jackson discloses:

a. wherein the adding of data provides electronic mail to the client database; See 2:43-58;

5:44-58; 10:5-34.

10.   As to claim 6, Jackson discloses:

a. wherein the access of the client database by the session module is to remove data from

the client database; See 3:1-7; 10:35-63.

11.   As to claim 7, Jackson discloses:

a. wherein a portion of the client database is retrieved and stored in the data storage; See

3:1-67; 4:1-65; 7:1-33; 9:33-39; 10:35-63.

12.   As to claim 8, Jackson discloses:

a. wherein the data storage comprises a mail server so that the client computer càn access

electronic mail to the client database wherein the server is having an information transport for

transmitting electronic information is deemed to inherently include a mail server or a server used

for mail, in addition, distributing messages to an inbox from the server to recipients on a

distribution list is deemed to be a mail server; See 2:1-67; 4:1-67; 8:43-49; 9:1-20; 10:5-67.

13.   As to claim 9, Jackson discloses:

a. wherein the data storage resides on a local area network that is further connected to the

server; See Fig. 1; 9:33-40.

14.   As to claim 10, Jackson discloses:

a. wherein the session module has a persistent connection with the data storage wherein a

network connection to data storage is deemed to be a persistent connection to the data storage;

See Abstract; 1:32-42; Fig. 1.

15.   As to claim 11, Jackson discloses:

a. connecting one of the mobile clients to a server having a session module; See 2:10-50;

b. manipulating the client database with the session module; See 2:10-67; 4:1-67; 5:1-15;

10:50-67;

c. updating the data storage responsive to the manipulation by the session module; See

2:10-67; 4:1-67; 5:1-15; 10:50-67;

d. disconnecting the client from the server; See 3:5-44; and

e. repeating (a)-(d) a plurality of times, each time with a different one of mobile clients;

See 3:1-67; 4:1-67.

16. As to claim 12, Jackson discloses:

a. additionally comprising updating the client database with data obtained from data

storage; See 3:37-67; 4:1-40; 9:1-40.

17. As to claim 13, Jackson discloses:

a. wherein the manipulating includes querying the client database for specific data stored

in the client database; See 3:1-67; 5:9-28; 10:50-67; 11:1-25;

18. As to claim 19, Jackson discloses:

a. wherein the data storage resides on a wide area network; See 6:1-67; Fig. 1.

19. As to claim 21, Jackson discloses:

a. wherein the data storage includes data that is shareably accessed by the plurality of

mobile clients; See 6:1-67; 8:1-67.

20. As to claim 30, Jackson discloses:

a. wherein each one of the session modules executes a set of tasks which is different from

the set of tasks of the other session modules; See 6:1-67; 9:1-67; 11:1-25.

21. As to claims 31-38, Jackson discloses:

a. Wherein the data storage comprises a plurality of databases, each database associated with a service wherein a serivce is deemed to be sales, service, hotel, patients used on LAN, remote computers, X.25, wireless, and ISDN; See 1:45-67; 2:1-67; 3:1-7; 4:5-23; 6:1-67; 7:1-33; Fig. 1 .

22. As to claim 40, Jackson discloses:

a. synchronizing at least a portion of the data in the client database with at least a portion of the data located in the data storage wherein the server is updates the local files of the client to replace missing files and the distributed forms are sent to clients not having the data is deemed to be synchronizing the a portion of the data also probing for missing files and replacing them; See 3:1-67; 4:1-4; 5:1-28; 9:1-67; 10:50-67; 11:1-25.

23. As to claims 14-18, 20-29, & 39, they are combinations and subcombination of previously rejected claims and are rejected for their respective reasons as set forth above.

24. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

25.   Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by "Managing the Mail-strom," hereinafter, ccMail.

26.   As to claim 1, Examiner states that Lotus' cc:Mail product discloses:

a. a client database wherein the ccMail remote user application consisted of a client mail database; pgs. 142-143; 146; 148:columns 2-3; 150: columns 3-4; 158: columns 3-4; 160:columns 1-4; 160:columns 1-4; 162: columns 1 & 3; and

b. a communications module wherein the ccMail remote user application connects to a ccMail gateway or router; See pgs. 142-143; 148:columns 2-3; 150: columns 3-4; 158: columns 3-4; 160:columns 1-4; 160:columns 1-4; 162: columns 1 & 3; and

c. a server computer where the ccMail host database (home) resides on a server computer; See pgs. 142-143; 146; 148:columns 2-3; 150: columns 3-4; 158: columns 3-4; 160:columns 1-4;

d. a data storage wherein the ccMail database (home) contained storage for the ccMail home database; See pgs. 142-143; 146; 148:columns 2-3; 150: columns 3-4; 158: columns 3-4; 160:columns 1-4; 160:columns 1-4; 162: columns 1 & 3;

e. a session module (Router software), in communication with the data storage, to non-persistently connect to the communications module and access the client database from time to time wherein the ccMail gateway/router software was scheduled to make calls to remote post office clients and remoter mobile mail users periodically; See pgs. 142-143; 148:columns 2-3; 150: columns 3-4; 158: columns 3-4; 160:columns 1-4; 160:columns 1-4; 162: columns 1 & 3.

27.   As to claim 2, Examiner states that Lotus' cc:Mail product discloses:

a. wherein access of the client database by the session module is a query wherein the

gateway/router contained a session module which can be stored either on the gateway/router or

on the data storage having the ability to query the scheduler to communicate with remote clients;

See: pgs. 142-143; 146; 148:columns 2-3; 150: columns 3-4; 158: columns 3-4; 160:columns 1-4;

160:columns 1-4; 162: columns 1 & 3.

28.   As to claim 3, Examiner states that Lotus' cc:Mail product discloses:

a. wherein the access of the client database by the session module is to add data to the

client database wherein the host ccMail database connects to remote post office clients and

remote ccMail mobile clients to update their mail directories (databases), which includes adding

and deleting users to the mail directory and exchange e-mail with a separate database; See: pgs.

142-143; 146; 148:columns 2-3; 150: columns 3-4; 158: columns 3-4; 160:columns 1-4;

160:columns 1-4; 162: columns 1 & 3.

29.   As to claim 4, Examiner states that Lotus' cc:Mail product discloses:

a. wherein the adding of data updates a work order in the client database wherein it is

deemed that the data exchanged is data which can inherently consist of any data including a work

order; See:pgs. 142-143; 146; 148:columns 2-3; 150: columns 3-4; 158: columns 3-4;

160:columns 1-4; 160:columns 1-4; 162: columns 1 & 3.

30.   As to claim 5, Examiner states that Lotus' cc:Mail product discloses:

a. wherein the adding of data provides electronic mail to the client database; See response

to claim 3 above.

31.   As to claim 6, Examiner states that Lotus' cc:Mail product discloses:

a. wherein the access of the client database by the session module is to remove data from

the client database; See response to claim 3 above.

32.   As to claim 7, Examiner states that Lotus' cc:Mail product discloses:

a. wherein a portion of the client database is retrieved and stored in the data storage

wherein it is deemed that a home post office can retrieve a portion of the remote post office's

directory (database) and store it in the home post offices data storage; See pgs. 142-143; 146;

148:columns 2-3; 150: columns 3-4; 158: columns 3-4; 160:columns 1-4; 160:columns 1-4; 162: columns 1 & 3.

33.   As to claim 8, Examiner states that Lotus' cc:Mail product discloses:

a. wherein the data storage comprises a mail server so that the client computer can access electronic mail to the client database wherein the home ccMail post office is deemed to reside on a server (mail server); See pgs. 142-143; 148:columns 2-3; 150: columns 3-4; 158: columns 3-4; 160:columns 1-4; 160:columns 1-4; 162: columns 1 & 3.

34.   As to claim 9, Examiner states that Lotus' cc:Mail product discloses:

a. wherein the data storage resides on a local area network that is further connected to the server wherein the ccMail home post office is deemed to reside on a local network wherein the local users access their home post office via the local area network; See pgs. 142-143; 146; 148:columns 2-3; 150: columns 3-4; 158: columns 3-4; 160:columns 1-4; 160:columns 1-4; 162: columns 1 & 3.

35.   As to claim 10, Examiner states that Lotus' cc:Mail product discloses:

a. wherein the session module has a persistent connection with the data storage where in the local area network is deemed to comprise of a persistent connection for local users to the

ccMail home (local) post office; See pgs. 142-143; 146; 148:columns 2-3; 150: columns 3-4; 158:

columns 3-4; 160:columns 1-4; 160:columns 1-4; 162: columns 1 & 3.

36.   As to claim 11, Examiner states that Lotus' cc:Mail product discloses:

        a. connecting one of the mobile clients to a server having a session module; See response

to claims 1-3 above;

        b. manipulating the client database with the session module; See response to claims 1-3

above;

        c. updating the data storage responsive to the manipulation by the session module; See

response to claims 1-3 above;

        d. disconnecting the client from the server wherein it is deemed that the ccMail

gateway/router connects to remote post offices and remote mobile users and disconnects from

them either as their dial in or as they are polled; See pgs. 142-143; 146; 148:columns 2-3; 150:

columns 3-4; 158: columns 3-4; 160:columns 1-4; 160:columns 1-4; 162: columns 1 & 3; and

        e. repeating (a)-(d) a plurality of times, each time with a different one of mobile clients

wherein it is deemed that different remote post offices and mobile users are contacted through a

ccMail router/gateway via a scheduler either on the home post office or the mobile clients; See

pgs. 142-143; 146; 148:columns 2-3; 150: columns 3-4; 158: columns 3-4; 160:columns 1-4;

160:columns 1-4; 162: columns 1 & 3.

37.   As to claim 12, Examiner states that Lotus' cc:Mail product discloses:

a. additionally comprising updating the client database with data obtained from data

storage wherein the home (central) post office is deemed to store its data on data storage which

updates the mail directories and e-mail messages on mobile client databases; See pgs. 142-143;

146; 148:columns 2-3; 150: columns 3-4; 158: columns 3-4; 160:columns 1-4; 160:columns 1-4;

162: columns 1 & 3.

38.   As to claim 13, Examiner states that Lotus' cc:Mail product discloses:

a. wherein the manipulating includes querying the client database for specific data stored

in the client database wherein it is deemed that the remote client's directory is manipulated which

includes query to see what differences exist or if a particular e-mail name is stored on the client

database and synchronizing the change is so desired by the central post office wherein the client

databases are subordinate to the central database (post office); See pgs. 142-143; 146;

148:columns 2-3; 150: columns 3-4; 158: columns 3-4; 160:columns 1-4; 160:columns 1-4; 162:

columns 1 & 3.

39.   As to claim 19, Examiner states that Lotus' cc:Mail product discloses:

a. wherein the data storage resides on a wide area network wherein ccMail can connect

with remote connection through-out the world using the Internet or phone lines (PBX) or ATM;

<u>See</u> pgs. 142-143; 146; 148:columns 2-3; 150: columns 3-4; 158: columns 3-4; 160:columns 1-4;

162: columns 1 & 3.

40.   As to claims 14-18 & 20-29, they are combinations and subcombination of previously

rejected claims and are rejected for their respective reasons as set forth above.

41.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

42.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness

rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in
> section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are
> such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person
> having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the
> manner in which the invention was made.

43.   Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jackson in view of

Reisman, U.S. Patent 5,694,546 ("Reisman").

44.   As to claim 20, Jackson discloses the claimed invention except for the wide area network

being the Internet.   Reisman teaches that it is known to use a wide area network being the

Internet. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to use a wide area network being the Internet as taught by Reisman , since

Reismn states at column 2, lines 8-60 that such a modification would allow provide wide access to

timely information products from a central server.

Response to Arguments

45.   Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-30 have been considered but are moot in

view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

46.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner

should be directed to Charles Rones whose telephone number is (703) 306-3030. The examiner

can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor,

Thomas Black, can be reached on (703) 305-9707.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 308-9051, (for formal communications intended for entry)

Or:

(703)308-5403 (for informal or draft communications, please label
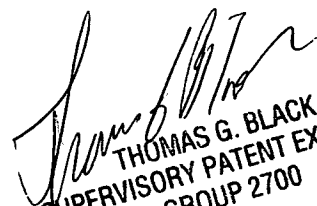
"PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive,

Arlington. VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be

directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Rones

April 2, 2000

THOMAS G. BLACK
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
GROUP 2700